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PATENT
0573-1026

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Jean-Luc CLEMENT et al.

Conf.

Application No. NEW NATIONAL PHASE

Group

Filed December 23, 2005

Examiner

VERTEBRAL OSTEOSYNTHESIS EQUIPMENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 23, 2005

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

An **Appendix** is attached following the signature page of this paper.